

of France, everthing in that Unhappy Country is in the utmost Confusion, and the Emigrants under Conduct of the ExPrinces are gaining ground daily—their Army is become numerous and it is Supposed will enter France in about Two Months. The Empress of Prussia and King of Sweden have declared their intentions of giving Strong Support of Troops and Money to the Prince's Cause. England remains a peacefull Spectator, replete with Comfort overflowing with the Commerce of the World, And Rich most infernally rich, for independant of Newspaper puffing, the sage politicians declare and pronounce, that the Publick Credit of this Country was never at such a height. Our Worthy Minister has repealed certain Taxes, Viz—that respecting Female Servants. Also a part of the Window lights and the additional Tax upon Candles—and has it in contemplation to bring others before the House for reduction—Shewing at one View that the flourishing State of Publick finance will at present admit of such ease to the Burthens of the People.

I heard some little time Since from Cap^t Mercer he is gone to join his Regm^t now stationed in Ireland Am told that after the Review we the 1st Battⁿ are to be broke up into Detachment[s]. but to what Part our destination is to lead us. there is at present no Saying. Our Gracious Duke¹¹ is not very communicative nor are his Orders long known ere he expects them executed, therefore with Such a Man it is best to be always ready for the Move, when the Battalion dashes off again, Abroad, We will have the pleasure to see you in Canada, for I assurdly give it the preference, but I hope to have done with [torn] Fag of a Subaltern line ere that Period. [torn] [l]adder of Seniority is so long to creep

¹¹ Frederick Augustus, Duke of York and second son of George III and Queen Charlotte, born Aug. 16, 1763, died Jan. 5, 1827. He was destined for the army from his earliest years, and from April 3, 1798, to Jan. 27, 1809, served as commander-in-chief. His military talents were quite ordinary, but the influence he wielded for the reformation of abuses in the military establishment was of great value to the nation.

He married on Sept. 29, 1791, Princess Frederica Charlotte Ulrica Catherine, eldest daughter of Frederick William II of Prussia. They soon separated, and she lived thereafter in retirement until her death, Aug. 6, 1820. See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*